

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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AMONG THE HEAD-HUNTING KUKU-KUKUS

EXPEDITION TO AN UNTAMED REGION OF NEW GUINEA

A BRAVE little party of five Lutheran missionaries, with some native church workers and porters, set out recently to make a survey of the almost unknown territory of the dreaded Kuku-Kuku tribe, who are among the most dangerous head-hunting savages in New Guinea. Their task is to choose sites for mission stations in this forbidding corner of the country.

Last year a member of the present expedition, the Revd J. Horrold, made three survey flights over the Kuku-Kukus' unknown land, but his aircraft was unable to get over the mountains, and met terrific air currents in the valleys.

However, he reported passing over an inland sea, and he also saw some 200 of the grim Kuku-Kuku villages. Each had a look-out tower and gardens fenced in against enemies.

German explorers

It is a little-known, untamed corner of New Guinea. One of the very few white men ever to penetrate the area was a German officer, Captain Detzner, who hid in unexplored New Guinea during the First World War. In 1914 part of this huge island belonged to Germany and was called Kaiser Wilhelm's Land.

Detzner, with another German named Baum and a party of armed natives, was exploring the interior when war broke out and the Australians landed. Detzner wandered for years with his small force in New Guinea.

Baum became ill with fever, and had to leave the jungle and surrender to the Australians. But Detzner did not give himself up until after the war.

Baum eventually fell a victim to the Kuku-Kukus, who murdered him and his nine carriers while he was exploring in 1931.

Next, one or two white

"diggers," searching for gold, may have entered this unknown land. Almost certainly one of them was "Shark-Eye" Park, a strange, tough, silent man who used to roam about in the jungle by himself, looking for gold. It was thought that he was not attacked by the natives because he hypnotised them.

Of this sinewy grim prospector, with the shark's glare in his eyes, Ion L. Idriess writes in his book, *Gold-Dust and Ashes* (Angus and Robertson) that Park passed unharmed among these savages while demanding food and attention as his right. The most uncanny thing about them is their eyes—strangely dead, fish-like eyes. But Park, the gold-seeker, would quietly out-stare those cruel eyes and make their owners think he possessed magic powers.

Drum messages

These human vultures signal the approach of strangers by drum messages. The explorer sees the Kuku-Kukus flitting like bark-clad phantoms among the trees, while in startling contrast overhead may be gorgeous birds of paradise and dainty tree squirrels skimming from branch to branch.

The cannibals set cunning traps for their enemies—trigger-vines stretched across a path which shoot an arrow into a man if he stumbles over one; razor-sharp bamboo splinters hidden

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Preparing for a 700-mile walk

Alan Kiddell and John White, 15-year-old members of the 5th Chichester Scout Troop, intend to walk to the World Scout Jamboree which is being held in Salzburg, Austria, in August. They hope to do the 700-mile journey in three weeks.

LOTS OF PEOPLE

THE world's population has increased by more than 500 million since 1920, and had reached 2400 million in 1949, according to a United Nations survey just published. The fastest-growing population is Latin America's, which is said to be increasing at the rate of two per cent every year.

No curls for these girls

MOST girls in this country are proud of their curls, whether natural or not; but the Bantu girls of South Africa have different ideas—they are prepared to pay up to £2 for lotions to make their hair less curly and kinky.

The trouble with these "uncurlers," however, is that their effects soon wear off. For a few days after being washed and treated the hair keeps relatively straight; then, inevitably, the kink creeps back until the Bantu head has regained all its fuzzy-wuzzy glory.

Research work has gone on now for 50 years or more, but taking the waves out of hair that is naturally curly is an obstinate business which has so far eluded all the ingenuity of science.

Farm without an owner

AT Osgodby, in Lincolnshire, there is a certain 80-acre farm of which nobody knows the owner!

Under the 1947 Agriculture Act a county agricultural committee has power to turn out any occupier who does not cultivate his farm properly; but there is no occupier to turn out, and the owner cannot be found!

The agricultural committee representative for the Osgodby area referred an inquiring Press reporter to the County Agricultural Committee at Lincoln; but no information was forthcoming from that source, though they knew all about the condition of the farm.

Villagers were of the opinion that both fields and farmhouse had been taken over either by the Forestry Commission or the War Office—they were not sure which. But Forestry Commission and Army authorities deny responsibility for the farm.

Meanwhile, the grandson of a former tenant would like to take over the farm. But that involves finding the owner, and until this mysterious person is tracked down we presume that, in a time of world food shortage, those fields are likely to remain untilled.

CUTTY SARK IS IN GOOD SHAPE

Famous clipper's future

THE famous clipper ship *Cutty Sark* has been found in such good condition that it is hoped she can be repaired in time for the Festival of Britain. She will be berthed off Rotherhithe.

Sole survivor of the true British clippers, the *Cutty Sark* was built on the Clyde in 1869, and she is a close copy of her great rival, the *Thermopylae* (whose bow has been reconstructed for the Sea and Ships section of the South Bank Exhibition), which was built in the previous year in Aberdeen. She has an iron frame, planked with wood, and is just under 1000 tons gross; and she is full-rigged, that is, three-masted, with square sails carried on all masts.

On the China run

The *Cutty Sark* (the name means Short Shirt, and is taken from Burns's lively poem, *Tam o' Shanter*) and the *Thermopylae* met as rivals in the run to China for tea.

The *Cutty Sark* was believed to be faster in a gale, but the *Thermopylae* was slightly the faster in light winds; but the *Thermopylae* certainly had the better of most contests.

When the Suez Canal put an end to the races of the China clippers, both ships were transferred to the wool run from Australia. The late Basil Lubbock compiled a list of the fastest sailing ship runs from the UK to Australia, in which he gave first place to the *Thermopylae*, with two runs of 60 days, while the *Cutty Sark's* best runs were 64 and 66 days.

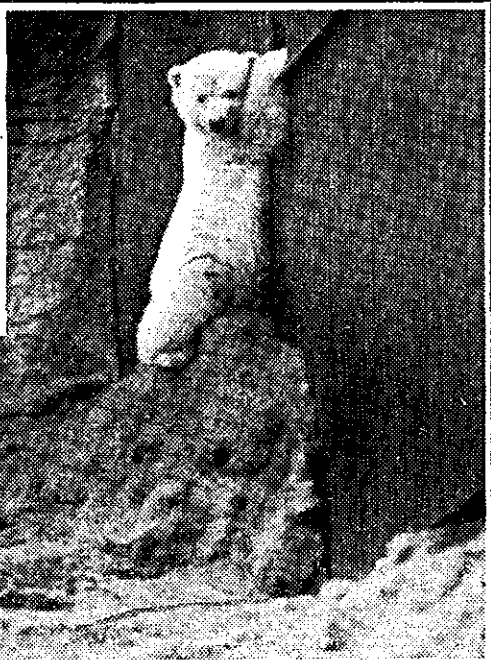
In a hurricane

In 1895 both ships were sold to the Portuguese, and 12 years later the beautiful *Thermopylae* was sunk as a torpedo target off the Tagus. But the old *Cutty Sark* survived a West Indian hurricane and went on trading.

Arriving in England in 1922, she was bought by the late Captain Wilfred Dowman, and re-conditioned and re-rigged. For many years she lay at Falmouth, but after the death of Captain Dowman his widow presented her to the Thames Nautical Training College, and she was towed round to Greenwich. There she lay until the end of last February, when she was drydocked for examination.

American Brumas

Brumas in the London Zoo is growing up rapidly, but just a year ago she was a little bruin like this Polar bear in the Milwaukee Zoo, Wisconsin.



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WHO is doing the finest work in the world

IN these troubled times the patient and beneficent work of many of the world's humane organisations is often overlooked. Yet we should have greater awareness of their achievements, for they are lights shining through the shadows of international differences.

One of the most outstanding is the World Health Organisation (WHO) which we have applauded many times in this paper. Created in 1948, it is one of the younger specialised agencies of the United Nations, and it is making fine progress in the field of international medical co-operation.

In the short span of three years WHO has become one of the most successful sources of popular knowledge of social medicine—the branch of medical science which helps people to preserve and improve their health, to seek out the causes of bad health. A great part of its programme is devoted to the welfare of the children and to problems of best use of available foodstuffs in all parts of the world.

The World Health Organisation speaks with full authority to the doctors of the nations, because it is run and advised by eminent specialists in all fields of medicine. One of the biggest problems is the passing of medical knowledge from the more advanced nations to the less advanced; and WHO helps to solve this by acting as a clearing-house for information and research, and by publishing an astonishing number of books, pamphlets, and periodicals.

The work of the 94 member nations of WHO is controlled from five regional offices—in Geneva, Alexandria, New Delhi, Hong Kong, and Washington; and these five centres this year will have the spending of £3,500,000 on a variety of vital international health services.

These services include world-wide broadcasting facilities to warn Governments of the appearance of epidemics; the preparation of an international Pharmacopoeia (containing recipes and formulas for medicines); the work of the World Influenza Centre (with headquarters in London); attacks on such diseases as malaria and tuberculosis; improvement in children's health; and the spread of knowledge of nutrition or the best use of available foodstuffs.

Great work is also being done by WHO in teaching the principles of hygiene. This is a vital task, for recent statistics show that one-fifth of all deaths which could have been prevented were due to dirt.

Another great field of WHO operations is the development of nursing services. In many countries, and especially where doctors are scarce, trained nursing personnel are of the utmost importance. At the moment 900 doctors and nurses are studying outside their own countries thanks to scholarships provided by WHO.

There can be no doubt that the work of WHO benefits all mankind. Certainly it deserves the support of every nation, whatever their politics may be.

KUKU-KUKUS

Continued from page 1

under fallen leaves; pits filled with sharp spears and concealed by an innocent-looking roof of grass.

Among these savages Park lived for years, and at last he found his gold. It was characteristic of him that before he left New Guinea as a rich man he helped old acquaintances who had not been so lucky.

Now missionaries are going to seek not gold, but the seeds of kindness and good will which lie in the most primitive human heart.

Theirs will not be an easy task. Missionaries have been sorely tried by disease and murder in the comparatively brief association of white men with this great island, in which are some of the last unexplored regions left in the world.

PROGRESS OF THE SCHUMAN PLAN

THE initialing in Paris of the draft of a treaty setting up a European coal and steel community marked a great step forward in creating the foundations of European unity as suggested by the Schuman plan.

The Schuman plan (named after the French Foreign Minister) was first put forward in May 1950. Its aim was to create a new approach to the question of uniting Europe.

Instead of tackling the problem from a purely political angle the Schuman plan suggested

creating first a single economic authority for two of the basic industries—coal and steel—of France, Britain, Western Germany, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, and Italy. This high authority would pave the way to European unity in other fields.

Britain refused to participate in the Schuman plan, but the other nations pressed on, and the result is that a treaty embodying these principles has now been initialled, and is ready to be presented to the various national Parliaments for approval.

Boon for the conductor

THE works manager of a Tipton, Staffs, firm has invented a vacant-seat indicator for use on double-decker buses. Lights on an indicator panel, fixed downstairs by the platform, show the number and position of empty seats upstairs.

The conductor and intending passengers can all tell at a glance how much room there is on top. Anyone sitting on a seat automatically puts out the appropriate bulb in the indicator panel, leaving only bulbs for vacant seats lit up.

The inventor believes the device, which should greatly help the travelling public and bus conductors, could also be adapted for use in cinemas and theatres to show the box office what accommodation is available.

DIVISION IN THE HOUSE

By the CN Press Gallery Correspondent

"DEE-VEE-SZHUN!"

For years out of mind that has been the phonetic version of the word shouted through the corridors of Westminster by the House of Commons policemen as a division begins.

After the Easter recess the Commons normally run into what might be called the Division Season, when bills reach their committee stage on the floor of the House. Divisions in great numbers and at any time may be challenged when, in committee, our MPs go through bills in detail.

The mechanics of a division are simple to anyone who has seen one, and depend—as do so many parliamentary rules—on geography or accommodation reasons. The chamber, let us say, is an oblong box. Outside, down the longer sides of this rectangle, run two corridors called lobbies.

Ayes and Noes

These have names. The lobby to the Speaker's right is the Aye lobby, the one on his left is the No lobby.

There must always be a "question" before the House—it cannot just make a decision about nothing. If there is a particular matter on which opinions in the house are divided, a division will be called to settle it. The division begins when the Speaker "puts the question."

He then says: "As many as are of that opinion say Aye"—and one side will shout "Aye." Then he says: "As many as are of the contrary opinion say No"—and there will be a roar of "No."

The Speaker judges the strength of the voices (technically he "collects the voices"), saying: "I think the Ayes (or the Noes) have it." If there is then a renewed shout of "No" or "Aye" he will command: "Clear the lobby."

Then you will see our MPs split off into two sections, and enter one or other of the lobbies through four small communicating doors, two on each side of the chamber.

In the lobbies

Meanwhile, warning bells and police cries of "Dee-vee-szhun!" will echo through the building. Two minutes later the Speaker will repeat the question. If one side decides not to go on with the division—merely by not calling—the vote will be called off.

But if the division continues tellers, who are usually whips, will be appointed, two for each side. Six minutes after the order to clear the lobby the Speaker gives another: "Lock the doors."

All the members voting are now in the lobbies, where they are counted by the tellers, who cross-check the figures and report them to the Table. They then line up shoulder-to-shoulder before the Table.

From their formation the House can tell in advance which side has won, because the tellers for the winners always stand to the Speaker's left, flanking the Opposition benches.

The one on the end announces the formula: "The Ayes to the right, 172. The Noes to the left, 247." The Speaker is then handed the figures and repeats them, adding (in this case): "The Noes have it."

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

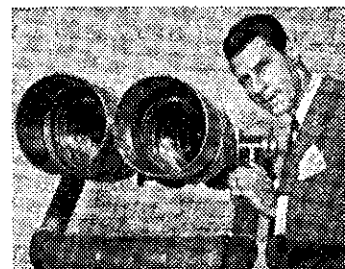
SUMMER TIME AGAIN

Summer Time begins on April 15, so do not forget to put your clock forward one hour before going to bed on Saturday night.

Fishing near Overton, Flintshire, Mrs P. Mallaby, of Macclesfield, Cheshire, landed a 37-pound salmon, the largest taken by rod from the River Dee since 1948.

Sir James Learmouth, Professor of Surgery at Edinburgh University, who attended the King in his illness two years ago, has been awarded the Lister Medal for 1951 for his contributions to surgical science.

The light railway used chiefly by Spurn Head lifeboatmen between Kilnsea and Spurn Head, north of the Humber, is to be closed.



With the aid of these huge binoculars, the largest in the world, the name of a ship 20 miles away can be easily read. They were made for use on Japanese battleships.

Dyeing by light

A demonstration of dyeing fabrics entirely by light, using no chemicals or dyestuffs, was given recently in Chicago. The process is to remain a secret for the present.

Princess Elizabeth will watch the Festival of Boyhood display by more than 1000 boys of the Boys' Brigade in the Royal Albert Hall, London, on May 4.

The Pilgrim Trustees have undertaken to contribute £21,000 for urgent repairs to the exterior of Eton College Chapel.

The coastal stations of the British Post Office last year handled 753,027 radiotelegrams to and from ships at sea.

CROW'S NEST

For the third year in succession two crows are building their nest on top of the "crow's nest" on the RNR depot ship Derg in Southampton Docks.

The tenor bell of Canterbury Cathedral, weighing one ton 14 cwt, has developed a crack and is to be recast.

While a Folkestone schoolboy was searching for a lost ball on the cliff face he found 14 golden sovereigns, now in the possession of the police.

When Haslingden, the Lancashire cotton town, celebrates the diamond jubilee of its grant of a charter this year, 5000 school-children will receive memento handkerchiefs.

Spectators at a Chatham carnival in May will be able to buy 15 badges which will give them immunity from the 200 collectors for charity.

Little by little

Boys and girls at New Street Methodist Church Sunday-school, Wellington, Shropshire, are helping to pay for the cost of church renovation by bringing ship half-pennies to school each week. The weekly average from the 200 scholars is more than 1000 coins.

Hundreds of Italians wanting to come to Britain as miners queued to appear before a selection board in Milan.

A balloon released from the roof of a London store, and carrying a voucher for free nylons, was found by a girl in Copenhagen.

Facilities for speedier disembarkation at Holyhead include the provision of an electrically-operated steel platform and stairways which can be adjusted to tide level, thus avoiding sloping gangways.

BLACK MARKETEE?

A number of nylons were found in a crow's nest at Goresbridge, Kilkenny, Eire.

Mrs Odette Churchill, G.C., is taking a party of 51 girls, selected through national girls' organisations, on an 8000-mile good will tour of Canada in August. The tour is being sponsored by Mr Garfield Weston, the Canadian industrialist.

Multum in Parvo

Valentine Kaufmann, a Munich craftsman, has sent the Pope a 10,000-word history of his city in a book the size of a cherry stone, and claims it is the smallest in the world.

The ninth decennial census of Canada will take place on June 1, and for the first time the people of Newfoundland will be included as part of the Canadian population.

Chester, like York, is to revive its miracle plays this year; the complete cycle will be given for the first time for nearly 400 years.

The first five finalists for the title of Festival of Britain Champion Home Dog, to be decided at the Children's National Dog Show in Hyde Park on June 9, have been chosen at a preliminary show held at Cambridge by Our Dumb Friends' League.

THE LIMIT

Only eight trout a day may be caught by members of the Burneside (Kendal) Angling Association because so many are being sold to local fishmongers.

The average housewife spends between 2½ and 3½ hours at the wash-tub every week. This conclusion is the result of a study made out by students of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

Old Jumbo, the 25-year-old horse which was sent to the RSPCA Field of Rest, near Leeds (as told in the CN for March 31), fell and injured his leg so badly that he had to be destroyed.

Jack Husband, 23, of Oklahoma City, has been called up for military service, although a loud tick can be heard coming from both sides of his head. The ticking, which has been going on all his life, has completely baffled the doctors.

Three-score years and 73

Khalil Morcos, grand old man of the Middle East, has died at a village in the Lebanon at the reputed age of 133.

Mr Churchill has promised to deliver the address at the bicentenary of the University of Pennsylvania, in Philadelphia, on the evening of May 8.

First three months of this year, with 10.71 inches of rain, were the wettest since 1870, when Kew began keeping records.

MOTERING ON THE RAILWAY

What appears to be a perfectly normal car bumps over a railway crossing, turns down the track, and runs along the rails as smoothly as any train.

The rubber tyres are specially made with a flange on the inside, and the track of the car is so adjusted that these flanged tyres exactly fit a standard railway gauge. The car negotiates points and crossings just like any other railway rolling-stock.

Once on the track the driver simply locks the steering wheel, sits back, and follows the line to his destination.

This car is not for normal use, of course. It has been specially adapted for inspectors of the Great Northern Railway in America, who use it for quick inspection of the track—and only at times when no trains are expected. As a road vehicle it can quickly be transferred from one line to another.

SILLY PUTTY

A FASCINATING material known as Silly Putty is becoming very popular in America.

Accidentally discovered, it is beige coloured and squeezes like putty, but is not oily and leaves no smear. Squeezed into a ball it will bounce six feet when thrown on the ground, and can be pulled out into a length indefinitely, though it can also be abruptly snapped.

Rolled into a cylinder and placed on end, it very slowly wilts and falls.

When it is smoothed out and pressed firmly over any line drawing or print it can be pulled off and shows in reverse a perfect reproduction of the design to which it has been applied.

It seems likely to become a universal toy for children of all ages.

THE VERY YOUNG FARMER

ALTHOUGH only ten, John Read of the Waveney Valley village of Ellingham is a keen farmer, and when not at school devotes every spare minute to the care of his stock.

His father gave him a portion of the farm and on this he keeps a calf, goats, and poultry. In addition, he helps his father with the milking twice a day, a job he has carried out ever since he was four. At Christmas John took some of his poultry to Beccles market, a few miles away, and came back with a useful sum of money to help his future farming activities.

BIGGEST CATCH

THE capture of a specimen of the largest known fish, the rare whale shark (rhinodon), on November 25, 1940, near Pangkor Island, off the west coast of the Malaya Peninsula, has only recently become known. A director of the Fisheries Department at Penang found the "news" while examining some records of the Japanese occupation.

The fish is stated to have been 35 feet long and 23 feet between the outstretched pectoral fins. It was caught in a beach seine, about a mile long, owned by Madras fishermen who had migrated to Malaya.

LINK WITH THE BARD

HALL'S CROFT, home of Shakespeare's daughter, Susanna, and her husband, Dr John Hall, has been opened to the public.

This house, which was acquired by the Birthplace Trust in 1949, and has since been restored, has a Shakespeare information and publications room. The more modern part is being equipped for use as Stratford's Festival Club.



Shoulder to wheel

Two sailors of HMS Excellent, Naval gunnery training school at Whale Island, Portsmouth, swing across a gulf during rehearsals for the Royal Tournament.

BIRD WATCHERS WERE BUSY

YOUNG bird-lovers held 220 Bird and Tree Festivals last year and sent in over 1400 essays in the competition run by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. The inter-county school competition was won for the fourth time by the Ryde Secondary Modern School, Isle of Wight.

Several rare species of birds are breeding increasingly in this country as a result of the society's work; among them are avocets, bearded tits, bitterns, red-necked phalaropes, and eider ducks.

In Wales a Kite Committee was started last year, and it is known that four pairs of these large birds—once common in these islands—have successfully brought up families. In Scotland nearly 30 nests of golden eagles were carefully guarded by bird-watchers.

ROMAN CASTLE IN EGYPT

AN ancient Roman castle with unusual features has just been excavated at Kasr Karun, south-west of Cairo.

The castle, 240 feet by 280 feet, was built under Diocletian, and was probably destroyed at the Arab conquest 350 years later. The particular point of interest is that the plan appears to be an early example of one adapted later both for Syrian and Coptic monasteries and the palaces of the Ommayad caliphs.

A DOCTOR OF THEIR OWN

THE 188 inhabitants of Wiseman's Ferry, on the Hawkesbury River, New South Wales, once had to call a doctor from Windsor, 27 miles away, at a cost of £25 a visit.

About two years ago they advertised in English papers, offering £1500 a year, and promised to build a surgery and waiting-room. Twenty-five replies were received, and finally Dr. William Young, of Sheffield, was appointed.

Now Dr Young has settled down with his wife and family and has begun his practice in the surgery and waiting-room built by public subscription. The people of Wiseman's Ferry gave them a special reception.

YOUNG SIDESMAN AND OLD BELL

THE Church of St John Baptist, Little Missenden, claims to have the youngest sidesman in the country, and one of the oldest bells.

David Moore, aged 13, who was confirmed earlier this year, was elected a sidesman at a recent meeting of the parochial church council. One of the church bells bears the date 1340.

THE OLD TIDE MILL

ANYONE who knows Woodbridge, the pleasant little Suffolk town at the head of the Deben estuary, must be familiar with the ancient tide mill at the water's edge. For something like eight centuries the building has occupied this spot, working hard all the time, and it is believed to be the only working tide mill in the country.

Now this picturesque feature of the town is in need of repair, and it is anticipated that about £500 will be needed to pay the bill. Since the Urban District Council launched an appeal in February more than £140 has been subscribed, and monetary gifts are being received from all over England.

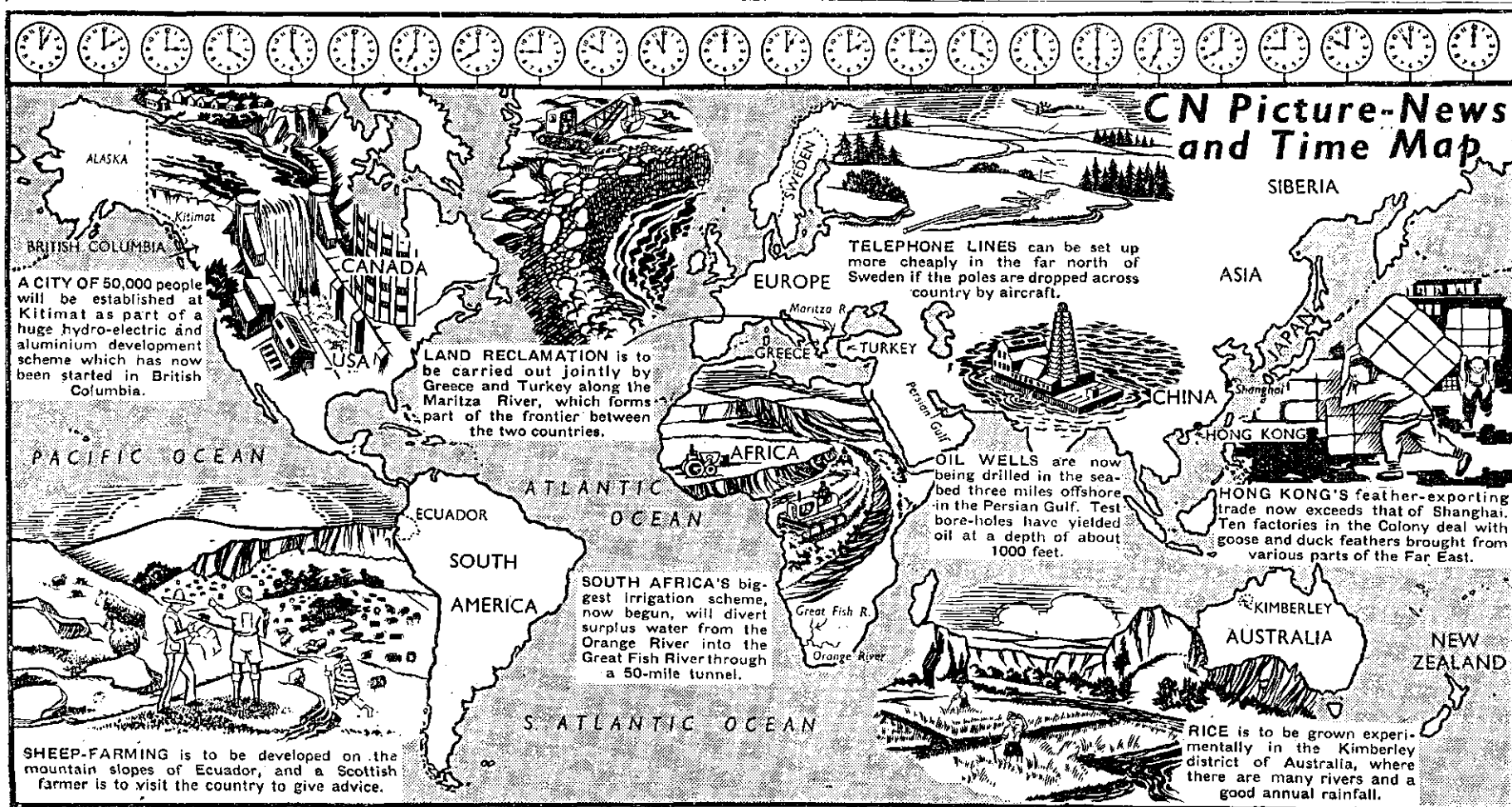
FINEST THREAD

A RECORD set up by the Spinster of Spalding, who in 1780 on a hand spinning-wheel spun a woollen thread so fine that a pound of it would extend unbroken for 95 miles, has been broken—by a man.

He is Mr Robert Patterson, Director of the Halifax Museum, Yorkshire. Using a wheel of the same type as the Spalding lady he has produced a thread of merino wool so fine that a pound of it would stretch 115 miles. The wheel is installed in a replica of an 18th-century weaver's cottage built inside the museum.

RURAL CRAFTS

AN organisation called the Norfolk Rural Craftsmen's Guild has been formed with the object of bringing together all the craftsmen in Norfolk, one of England's largest counties, and to reintroduce rural crafts which appear to be in danger of dying out. Officers have been elected and work is to start without delay.



String Quartet

Schoolchildren of Tottenham, Middlesex, rehearsing with musical instruments loaned to them for 12 months



NEWS FROM THE ZOO, BY CRAVEN HILL

Frog that fell with the rain

ONE of the tamest birds of prey ever seen in the Zoo—Joe, the Bateleur, or "clown" eagle—has died of old age; and young visitors will miss him, for he had become quite a famous Zoo comedian.

Joe came from Africa in 1928, and soon made a name for himself, not only because of his friendliness but because of his very comic ways. Whenever a crowd gathered in front of his cage, Joe would strut forward and solemnly make a series of low bows, in much the same way as a human actor taking his curtain call.

The action, although it looked as if it were the result of training, was in reality a form of display peculiar to some birds of this species. Because of his docility, Joe was occasionally allowed visitors, who could take a feeding-tray into the cage and offer him food from it.

Two recent arrivals deserve special mention. They are a tropical tree-frog and a razorbill.

The frog literally tumbled out of the skies, and was taken to Regent's Park by its finder, Mr J. J. Morris, chief engineer of the *Argentine Star*, recently arrived in London Docks from South America. Mr Morris told officials:

"We were lying at anchor at Buenos Aires when there was a violent rainstorm. As the rain lashed the deck we saw a frog hopping about, so I caught it and put it in a tin."

Zoo experts at first had difficulty in identifying this little frog from the skies, but it has now been classified as a White-lipped Hyla, a somewhat rare species which is found in Brazil and Argentina.

None the worse for its adventures, the frog, a striking-looking creature with white lips and speckled legs, is feeding well on bluebottles, and is very active. When the lid was lifted from its

tin it leapt onto the laboratory door, to which it clung with its sucker-clad feet.

And how came this little chap to tumble out of the skies? The answer is supplied by Mr G. S. Cansdale, Zoo superintendent, who has himself spent many years in the tropics.

"Frogs do occasionally fall during rainstorms," he said. "They get drawn upwards by a rising air current, and may be carried several miles before coming down with the rain."

As for the razorbill, this little bird was found, helpless and covered with oil, on a Suffolk beach by Mr Robert Bewell, of Thorpeness, near Leiston.

Taking pity on it, Mr Bewell took the bird home and managed to clean its plumage. Unfortunately, the razorbill's appetite was so hearty that he decided not to keep the bird any longer, and took it back to the beach, intending to release it.

The razorbill, however, had become so fond of Mr Bewell that it refused to leave him, and kept running after him each time he went away!

After making several attempts Mr Bewell decided to put the bird in a box and send it to the Zoo as the best way out of his difficulty.

Cherry blossom season in Japan

JAPANESE trains, buses, cars, carts, and rickshaws are now packed with people in holiday dress, streaming out of the cities and town to the Cherry Viewing festival. For cherry blossom time, extending over two weeks, is a national holiday.

The Japanese are so fond of flowers that almost every month sees the celebration of some kind of floral festival, from the Peach Fete in March to Leaf Viewing in November.

Their passion for floral art extends to the artificial shaping of trees. While the cherry tree is traditionally the Japanese favourite, the pine tree probably has more care lavished on it than any other. Many of the pines of Japan are more than a thousand years old.

Shaping the trees

The trees are shaped by constantly cutting all but the most perfect branches. Wires are then attached to these to induce them to grow to the required design.

The town of Kyoto boasts a 400-year-old pine tree, called the Sailboat, which is regarded as a perfect specimen of its kind.

When it was a sapling one strong branch was bent to form the hull of the boat, and left for several years. The main trunk was then gradually fashioned into the shape of a sail, a process which took 80 years.

The Japanese are also expert in the art of growing dwarf trees. The method is to plant selected young seedlings in pots, and to cut away all the main roots, leaving only the secondary ones to develop.

This process is repeated at intervals, and the branches either tied with wires or hung with weights to induce artistic shapes. During the dwarfing process, which takes six to ten years, the trees are kept in the shade.

Little landscapes

Especially small dwarf trees are also cultivated for making miniature landscape gardens, called *bon-kei*, which are popular in Japan as household decorations. These little trees, which include the Mongolian oak, maple, cypress, cherry, and pine, are grown to a height of only a foot or two. They live for hundreds of years and have all the characteristics of normal trees.

The miniature landscapes which they adorn are laid out in shallow porcelain trays, and represent popular mountain, seaside, and country scenes. They form exquisite ornaments, and some of them cost thousands of pounds.

FIRST TURBINE SHIP RETIRES

A SHIP that made history is shortly to be retired after half a century of service, mostly on the River Clyde.

In 1901 the turbine steamer *King Edward* was built by the famous firm of Denny's of Dumbarton, and was the first merchant ship to use the new method of turbine propulsion. Beautifully designed, she could do her 20 knots with the utmost ease.

In her first ten years the *King Edward* covered 190,000 miles, mainly on the run between Fair-

lie and Campbeltown. During the First World War she was used as a transport between England and France; between the two wars she was back on the Clyde passenger service; during the Second World War she acted as a tender to troopships in the Clyde; and then she went back on the Rothesay run.

Now she is to be disposed of, and it has been suggested that this grand old ship should be given an honoured place in the Scottish Section of the Festival of Britain.

It's time to talk about Summer Time

SUMMER TIME, which begins this week end when we put our clocks on one hour, was introduced in this country 35 years ago as a war measure, but there are still quite a number of people who dislike this practice, alternatively known as Daylight Saving.

Farm workers, in particular, complain that it upsets their milking programme, for the cows can hardly be expected to understand why they should suddenly start their day an hour early.

On the whole, however, we have no complaints to compare with those arising in America. Yet an American is credited with the idea of Daylight Saving.

In 1784 Benjamin Franklin was walking down the Strand at seven o'clock one summer morning. The thought suddenly struck him that here were all the shops still closed and the sun had already been up for three hours or more. All this good sunlight was, in fact, being wasted.

Englishman's campaign

An Englishman, William Willett, took up this idea in the early years of this century and campaigned vigorously for its adoption. But he died just a year before his ambition was finally realised.

Putting the clock forward one hour as the hours of daylight get longer saves electricity and fuel, and during the last war this country and others adopted a permanent one-hour advance of time from the true standard—and then added on another extra hour during the summer.

In U S the Summer Time problem is made much more complicated by the fact that the country is divided into four time zones.

New York is "five hours back" from London. At lunchtime in London, people in New York are breakfasting. Yet from one side of America to the other is almost as great a distance as from London to New York.

Years ago every State in

America fixed its own time standard, based on true solar time. Nobody ever knew what the right time was, for in one town the clocks might have been ten minutes slow or fast, compared with the next, and so on.

What brought matters to a head was the expansion of the railways. They just had to have some time standards.

In 1883 the railway companies adopted a system of dividing America into four time zones, each adjacent zone (going from east to west) being one hour behind the other.

Eventually this method was adopted by the Government and passed by Congress in 1918. The boundaries were so adjusted that no towns or trading areas were cut in half by a time zone, and everybody hoped that the matter had been settled once and for all.

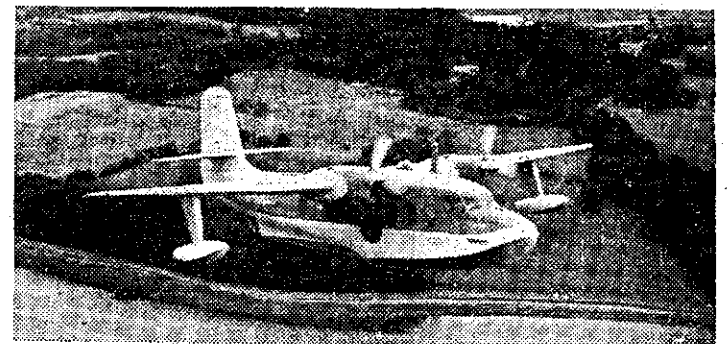
Unfortunately, this was not so. Almost every year it has been necessary to amend the time zone boundaries to meet complaints from local citizens, and there seems no end to these modifications.

Confusion

When Summer Time comes round things get much worse! Except for the war years, the adoption of daylight saving has been left to the individual cities and States to decide. Some adopt it, others do not, with resulting confusion that can be well imagined.

Only the railways remain consistent. Even so, tens of thousands of people either miss their trains or arrive an hour, or even two hours, too early on the days immediately following the introduction of daylight saving each year!

New planes for the world's airways



12. The Sealand

IN mountainous parts of the world, and in countries covered with dense forests, it is often impossible to construct airfields. However, there are usually lakes and rivers in even the most difficult territory, and this is where the Short Sealand proves the value of amphibians.

The Sealand combines the features of a flying-boat with those of a landplane. It has a hull to enable it to operate from suitable strips of water, and a retractable wheel undercarriage so that it can fly from airfields whenever these are available. An airliner in miniature, this versatile little machine seats a pilot,

radio-operator, and eight passengers. Powered by two 345-h.p Gipsy Queen engines, it cruises at 150 m.p.h. Span of the Sealand is 59 feet, and it is 42 feet long.

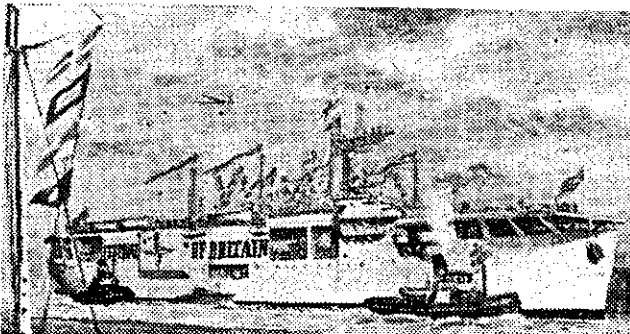
A graphic illustration of what the Sealand means in an undeveloped country like Borneo is provided by the Christian Missionary Alliance group in the Celebes Archipelago. From their base at Macassar the arduous overland route to one of their stations, up rivers and through jungles, took nearly four months. By using a river near the station a Sealand belonging to the missionaries completes the same journey in just under two hours.

A page
of facts and
photos to give a
preview of preparations
for a momentous celebration

Focus on the Festival of Britain

LAND OF OUR FATHERS. A Pageant of Wales will be held in Cardiff from July 25 to August 6, and an International Eisteddfod at Llangollen from July 3 to 8. The National Eisteddfod is at Llanwrst from August 6 to 11. At St Fagan's Castle, the Welsh Folk Museum, there will be traditional music, drama, and folk dancing from July 16 to 21.

FESTIVAL SHIP. The escort carrier HMS *Campania*, with an exhibition on board, will during the summer visit Southampton, Dundee, Newcastle, Hull, Plymouth, Bristol, Cardiff, Belfast, Birkenhead, and Glasgow.



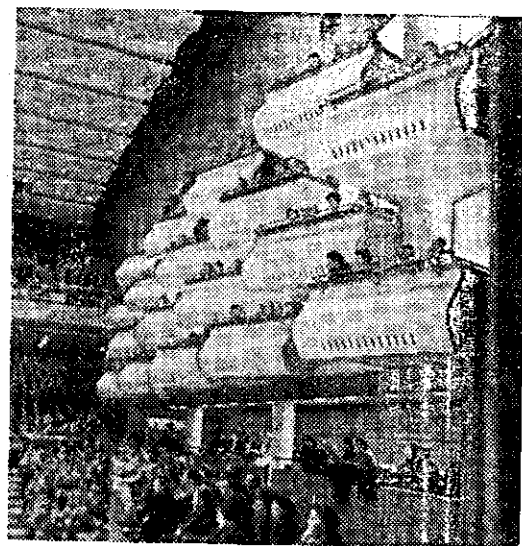
The *Campania*

NORTHERN IRELAND. The King and Queen are to visit Northern Ireland from June 1 to 4, and on June 1 the Farm and Factory Exhibition will be opened in Belfast. It will have a tapering metal tower, like the Skylon in London, and a mast to enable visitors to follow, on a radar screen, the movements of ships in the harbour. Festival weeks have been arranged all over Ulster.

THE MAGIC BOX. This film, specially produced for the Festival, tells the story of the William Friese-Greene, the British inventor and pioneer of films. In the cast are Robert Donat, Sir Laurence Olivier, Sir Ralph Richardson, Margaret Johnston, Alec Guinness, Stanley Holloway, Dame Sybil Thorndike, and other stars of the theatre.



Completing pillars for lighting the Dome of Discovery



Boxes in the Royal Festival Concert Hall

CLYDESIDE GLORY. The great Exhibition of Industrial Power, in Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, will be on view from May 28 to August 18. It will be a spectacular presentation of British achievement in coal-mining, steelworking, shipbuilding, railways, civil engineering, electricity, steam, and atomic power.

MOBILE EXHIBITION. This is to be the world's greatest transportable exhibition. It will be carried in over 100 lorries and will visit Manchester, May 3 to 26; Leeds, June 23 to July 14; Birmingham, August 4 to 25; and Nottingham, September 15 to October 6.

EXCELSIOR. More than 600 members of the Welsh League of Youth will climb Snowdon (3560 feet) on June 16 as part of the League's Festival celebrations.

MUSIC. The Three Choirs Festival at Worcester from September 2 to 7 will be attended by four British composers—Vaughan Williams, Gerald Finzi, Herbert Howells, and Julius Harrison.

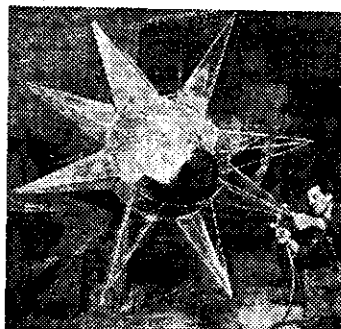


Half-scale model of a generator

THE BARD. The Memorial Theatre at Stratford-upon-Avon will present Shakespeare's *Richard II*, *Henry IV*, *Henry V*, and *The Tempest*. Among other events will be madrigal singing on the river, and the International Folk Dancing Festival from July 28 to August 11.

BRONTËS. At Haworth in Yorkshire a Brontë Festival has been arranged in which the players will be the grandchildren of those who lived in the village with the Brontës.

PRIDE OF EAST ANGLIA. A Carnival, Water Frolic, and Children's Fair will be among the many events at Norwich. Exhibitions will be held in the new art gallery specially built for the Festival. Concerts will be held in the cathedral, and plays performed in the old Maddermarket Theatre.



Spraying a plastic skin on to the framework of a decorative star

FLYING. There are eight trophies to be won in the Festival of Britain National Air Races, organised by the Royal Aero Club. The races will be held at the de Havilland airfield at Hatfield, Herts, on June 23.

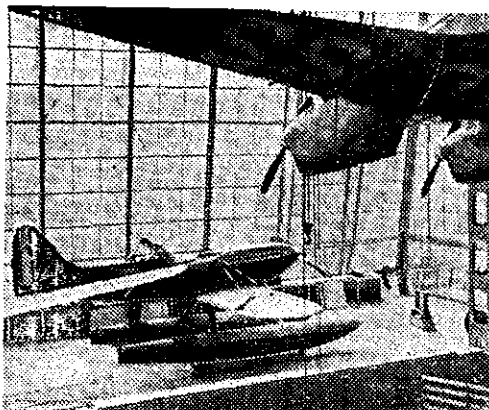
CHANNEL ISLANDS. The people of Jersey are to be hosts to the mayors of Jersey City, Newark, and Trenton in the State of New Jersey.

ISLE OF MAN. Pageants of the History of the Isle of Man from prehistoric to modern days are to be held in Ramsey, Peel, Castletown, and Douglas, culminating in the open-air Tynwald on July 5.

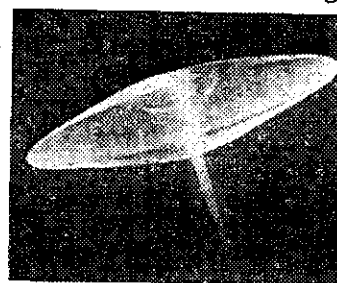
NIGHT WI' BURNS. Among items in the Dumfries Festival programme are a "Nicht wi' Burns," "Guid Nychburris" week, the Riding of the Marches, the Night of the Queen's Musick, the Presentation of the "Siller gun."

LIVERPOOL. Firework displays, fired from a train of barges, will be on a scale never before attempted in Britain.

MILTON. The picturesque old village of Chilham, near Canterbury, is to give a performance of Milton's Masque, *Comus*.



Historic British aircraft in the Palace of Engineering



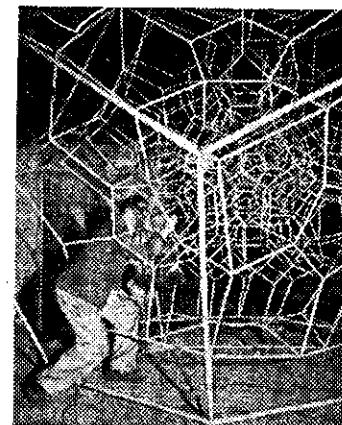
A flying saucer—part of the mobile exhibition which will go on tour

SALISBURY. There will be an exhibition illustrating the history and culture of the city since the 10th century. A play, *Our Lady's Tumbler*, written specially by Mr Ronald Duncan, will be performed in the cathedral.

CRICKET. A Ladies' Match will be part of the Cricket Festival at Winchester. Women's Institutes are to hold a Country Market at Butter Cross. 30 Royal Charters and the Winchester Bible will be shown in the Exhibition. There is also to be an Exhibition of Postal History.

POMPEY. Among many activities at Portsmouth there is to be a 50-mile marathon cycle race on June 32, and Children's Week, July 30 to August 4.

CANTON. In the old Kentish town of Tenterden, the reputed birthplace of Caxton, there is to be an exhibition of ancient and modern printing presses.



Painting a maze of wires with luminous paint

ABERDEEN. one of the Festival Centres, is to have a Town Planning Exhibition from June 1 to 30, the Royal Highland Agricultural Show, June 19-22, an Industrial Exhibition, and several other events.

PILGRIMS. At a service in Canterbury Cathedral on July 18, entitled Canterbury and the World, the Mayors of Kent will attend in state. The Exhibition, Canterbury through the Ages, will be in a medieval setting. Another Festival attraction is to be a demonstration game of Bat and Trap.

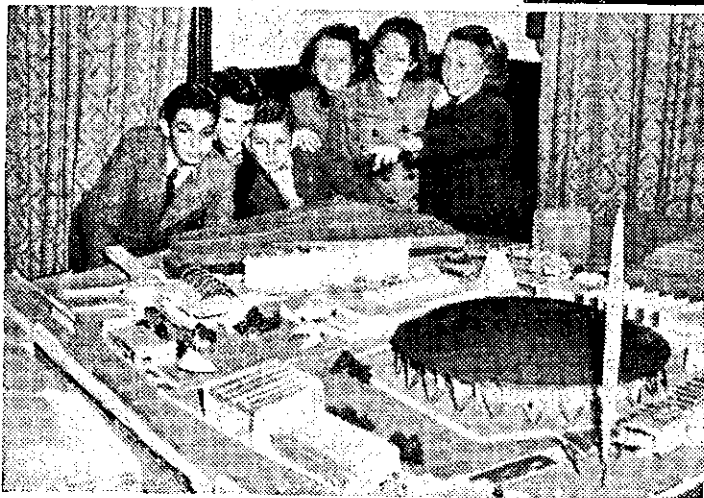
THE BIBLE. In the Crypt of St Paul's Cathedral, London, there will be an exhibition to demonstrate the influence of the Church and the Bible upon the life of this country and the Empire. It will open on June 6.

LEGEND. At Glastonbury there will be a replanting of Joseph of Arimathea's Holy Thorn on Wearyall Hill. Among other events will be a pageant called: Glastonbury, its Legends and Traditions.

DICKENS. A Dickens Festival will be held in the grounds of Rochester Castle in June.



This 102-foot flagstaff is prominent on the South Bank site. Made from a 250-year-old Douglas Fir—a gift from British Columbia—it is the tallest unstayed mast in Great Britain



Children examining a model of the South Bank site

Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House
Whitefriars · London · EC 4

APRIL 14 1951

TOO MANY PUPILS IN A CLASS

IN pleading for better schools for Britain's children, the National Union of Teachers has done good service both for those who teach and those who learn. Far too many children are in classes of fifty and over, and there are still too many ill-lit, damp, and badly-ventilated schools.

Much is being done to remedy this sad state of affairs, of course, but time is marching on. The new summer term will be the last at school for hosts of school-children, and new hosts of five-year-olds are waiting to take their places in far from satisfactory conditions.

Many plans for improving our schools have to be held up owing to the pressing needs of the re-armament programme. Guns we must have so that the future generations may live in security. But the needs of schoolchildren and teachers remain a prime consideration.

It is good that money should be spent on a few magnificent schools, but might it not be as well to spend a little more on temporary buildings so that we can have smaller and more manageable classes. No-one in this country is more deserving of sympathy and help than a teacher with fifty or more pupils under his care.

HAPPY WORKERS

IN order that people may be happy in their work, these three things are needed: They must be fit for it; they must not do too much of it; and they must have a sense of success in it. *John Ruskin*

The Editor's Table

Neighbours with a friendly interest

OUR Belgian neighbours are keen to know more about us, and they have no fewer than 23 societies devoted to fostering good relations with Britain.

The President of one of them, Union Belgo-Britannique, recently wrote to *The Times* protesting against the proposal to cut the money allowed to our British Council, which enables Belgian societies to carry on their work of illustrating the British way of life.

It seems to us a false economy to do anything which will discourage this neighbourly interest among old friends.

OVER-PREPARED

AT a public library in a London borough by-laws have been recommended to prevent people lying down and going to sleep on chairs, tables, or floors, riding inside on a bicycle, or eating sandwiches.

A council official said he could not recall any of these things happening, "but it is as well to be prepared."

This seems to be carrying the fine principle of Be Prepared a bit too far. Strange things can happen if the imagination is allowed to roam, and that official must have sleepless nights thinking that next day he may find some woman bathing her baby in the public library.

Britain is more hospitable

IT seems that we British are losing our reputation for "stand-offishness." Nearly all the American graduate students who came to Britain last year under the Fulbright scheme reported that they had failed to encounter the traditional British reserve.

They said they were surprised and pleased by the friendliness with which they were received wherever they went, and with the hospitality offered them in British homes. They all felt they had made friendships on this side of the Atlantic that will give them enduring interest in Britain and lasting affection for its people.

Americans, like our brothers in the various parts of the Commonwealth, are themselves most hospitable people, and they warmly respond to it in others. Our reserve is usually due to the not unendearing quality of shyness; but it is often a barrier to friendship, so let's get rid of it.

THIS KIND WORLD

WHEN a seven-year-old boy fell into a disused reservoir at Bridgend, Glamorgan, several people who happened to be passing at the time, decided it was their business to get him out.

An errand boy allowed himself to be lowered, head downwards, over the side of the reservoir, with a farmer holding his ankles, and an elderly man's stick in his hand. He hooked the stick through the trousers of the boy in the water, and then the others heaved and pulled them both to the pavement.

A railwayman applied artificial respiration and brought the rescued boy round, and the driver of a confectioner's van volunteered to drive him home—a happy ending to a nice bit of team-work.

JUST AN IDEA

As Lord Clarendon wrote: No man is so insignificant that he can be sure his example can do no hurt.

One of the happiest pictures of the year



When a certain V I P visited Cheltenham College the juniors were ready with their cameras. But the resulting snapshots must have shown Princess Elizabeth AND a strong escort.

MERRY HEART

FIT for the sunshine, so it followed him;
A happy-tempered bringer of the best
Out of the worst.

Robert Browning

LAUGHING CLOCK

IT has been suggested that Australia might produce a kookaburra clock on the lines of the cuckoo clock, and the idea has much to commend it.

The kookaburra, or laughing jackass, has a call which has been likened to a jovial human chuckle, and it would certainly be delightful to have a clock that laughs the hours away.

Spring frolics

O! WHERE do fairies hide their heads
When snow lies on the hills,
When frost has spoiled their mossy beds
And crystallised their rills?
Beneath the moon they cannot trip
In circles o'er the plain;
And draughts of dew they cannot sip,
Till green leaves come again.

When they return there will be mirth,
And music in the air,
And fairy wings upon the earth,
And mischief everywhere.
The maids, to keep the elves aloof,
Will bar the doors in vain;
No keyhole will be fairy-proof,
When green leaves come again.

Thomas Haynes Bayly

Under the Editor's Table



PETER PUCK
WANTS TO
KNOW

If Private Enterprise
should be promoted

NATIONS must take the necessary measures to protect themselves. But do not want red tape measures.

WHAT do people look for when buying a dog for the home? asks a writer. Well, to start with, a dog.

BILLY BEETLE



THE export trade is not an end in itself, says a speaker. But it enables us to make ends meet.

COMPLAINTS are made that people talk in library reading-rooms. They should be brought to book.

NEWEST handbags in Berlin are fitted with an electric lamp. Light to carry.

A MAN says he has a mouse that sings like a canary. We knew a canary that had a narrow squeak.

The Children's Newspaper, April 14, 1951

THINGS SAID

IF a young man works hard he cannot go wrong today. The world is wide open to him.

*Mr T. F. Braine, 87-year-old
Leeds industrialist*

THE idea that a soldier must always obey orders is perfectly monstrous. He is only bound to obey a lawful order.

Sir Hartley Shawcross

IN a few weeks' time I am joining the great organisation of bowler hats.

Major-General D. Dunlop, retiring G O C Singapore District

IN spite of my disagreement with those who write about music I have always remained on the best of terms with those gentlemen.

Sir Thomas Beecham

On working

I PITY you for over-work, but I assure you no-work is worse. The mind preys on itself, the most unwholesome food.

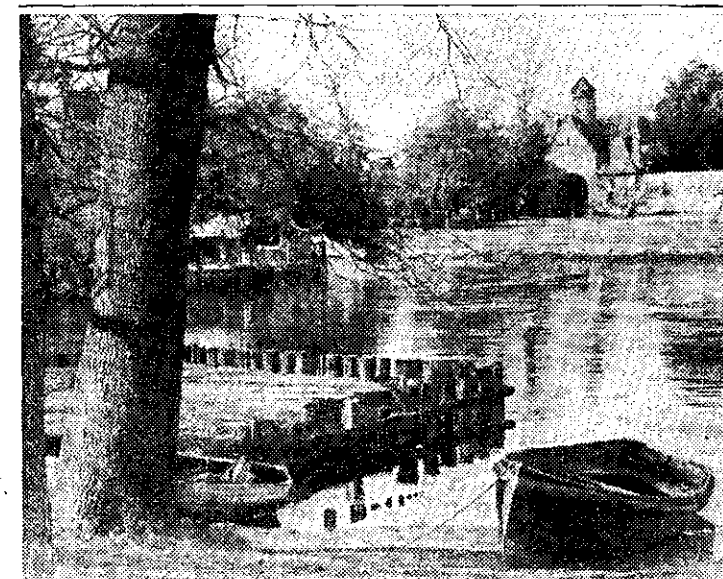
Charles Lamb

IN THE COUNTRY

No month provides colouring more charming and delicate than April. The meadows are never so green; budding trees are pure emerald to match the hedgerows. Yet there is much gold dotted over the landscape, and splashes of pink almond blossom gleam in delightful contrast to the paler tints of blushing apple boughs. "Roseate blossom," Dean Hole remarked of the almond, "that gracious harbinger which sets the first and fairest smile of Spring."

In the dew-wet grass on wayside banks coltsfoots glow like golden-headed nails driven into a green plush carpet, and down by the meandering stream "winking May-buds" shimmer in burnished beauty, rivalling the glossy stars of celandines.

Pass not these familiar flowers without a thought for their splendour; all too often the thoughtless trample them, ignoring the bounteous gifts of floral treasure Nature so freely bestows.



OUR HOMELAND

The 13th-century gatehouse of Beaulieu Abbey, Hampshire

Local Government explained

In last week's article we saw that for the purpose of administration this country is divided into counties, county boroughs, non-county boroughs, urban and rural districts, and parishes. This week we explain the composition of local authorities—how they are elected, and who may vote.

2. THE VARIOUS AUTHORITIES

FOR each area of local government there is an elected local authority. In other words, just as for local government purposes there are administrative counties, county boroughs, non-county boroughs, urban and rural districts, so there are County Councils, County Borough Councils, Borough Councils, and Urban and Rural District Councils who are responsible for the local government of their respective areas.

Parishes are in a rather special position, for only the largest have their own Parish Council; others are governed by what is called a Parish Meeting of all those inhabitants of the parish who are entitled to vote at local elections.

We have explained already that local authorities are quite distinct from the Central Government. But the Central Government, as we shall see later, does exercise a lot of influence over local authorities. And also, of course, the Central Government has a big say in the laws which Parliament passes and local authorities—as indeed are all of us and all groups of people—are subject to the law of the land: what lawyers call the rule of law.

"A common seal"

Local authorities, in fact, owe their very existence to Acts of Parliament.

The law says that local authorities shall consist of a number of members elected in a certain manner and that these members shall together form what is called "a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal."

This is a rather formidable description, but it means simply that when they meet together on council business these members constitute not a number of individuals but a single unit which continues in being year after year under the same name no matter how often the individuals who make up the unit may change. All acts done by the unit—the council—are made valid by the common seal which must be affixed to all official documents.

Each year the members of the

local authority elect a chairman, who in boroughs is called the Mayor, or in certain cities the Lord Mayor. County councils and county borough councils also appoint a number of aldermen, who are the senior members of local authorities. On important civic occasions the mayor and aldermen usually wear robes of office, and so meetings of borough councils are often very colourful and impressive.

We said just now that a local authority as a body continues in being perpetually no matter how often the individual members themselves may change. The members do, in fact, change fairly frequently:

Annual elections

Each year in the boroughs and urban and rural districts one-third of the councillors retire from office, and then all residents in the area who are British subjects and over 21 years of age and whose names appear on what is called the Register of Electors are entitled to vote for and so elect either the same members again or other representatives to fill the vacancies.

In the counties these elections take place once only in every three years, when all the councillors go out of office at the same time. When there is an election there are usually more candidates than there are vacant seats available, and in such cases the candidates who are declared elected are those who poll the highest number of votes.

Generally speaking, anyone may stand as a candidate at a local election if he is a British subject over 21 years of age and provided he (or she—for women are equally eligible with men) has some real interest in the area in the form of ownership or occupation of property. There are certain things, such as bankruptcy, which disqualify a candidate from membership of a local authority, but these are complications which we need not discuss.

Next week we shall see how responsibility for services is divided between county councils and county district councils.

TOM BROWN'S OTHER DAYS

NEARLY everyone knows that Thomas Hughes wrote *Tom Brown's Schooldays*, and a great number of people also know that he was a successful barrister and later a county court judge at Chester.

But how many know that in 1879 Thomas Hughes was responsible for planning a co-operative settlement in Tennessee, U S A? Yet it is a fact, and it is not surprising to find that the settlement was given the name of Rugby; moreover, funds for the establishment of the settlement were provided by royalties from the sale of his books, including *Tom Brown's Schooldays*, published 20 years earlier.

Thomas Hughes, humanitarian and idealist, planned to make it a place where "a golden life would grow up and spread all over the neighbouring regions." And though his intentions were never quite fulfilled, Rugby in Tennessee, besides its name, retains eloquent reminders of the attempt.

The library at Tennessee's Rugby is still functioning; the wooden parish church, built in England, is still used as a place of worship; and the London-built organ of the church is still played.

Lovers of *Tom Brown's Schooldays* will shortly be able to see a new British film version.

Averting a water famine

A SURVEY party of seven men has left Canberra for the mountain country of the Brindabella Ranges, 30 miles to the south of the Australian capital, to examine the proposed site of a new dam, and to judge whether by erecting a dam at this spot the city's water supply could be increased by 8000 million gallons.

So wild is the country leading to the Ranges that bulldozers have had to clear a track for the jeeps that will carry the party to within four miles of their base camp. From there they will go by pack horses down Bulls Head Mountain to Cow Flat on the upper reaches of the Cotter River.

The present scheme is to channel the water 20 miles north to a new reservoir at Mount Hardy. There the channel would link up with a system of gravity pipes which would carry the water to the city's four reservoirs.

Preliminary investigations into the new dam site were begun as long ago as 1910, but it has become necessary to accelerate the work because the authorities have found that at the present rate of population increase Canberra will be short of water within ten years unless an additional source of supply is provided.

1½ TANKERS

IN the launchings planned for this month at Sunderland are one 23,000 ton oil-tanker, and half a 23,000 ton oil-tanker, both for Norwegian owners.

The half-tanker is the 290-foot-long aft section of a vessel being built in two parts. As soon as it is launched, the forepart will be constructed, and eventually both sections will be welded together at South Shields to form a vessel 565 feet long. She will then go to Oslo to begin her working career.

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CYCLE SERVICE

2. That secondhand machine

MANY people begin their cycling days on a secondhand machine—Reg Harris did. But there are certain important points to bear in mind. Buy one from somebody you know, or from a reputable trader, and examine it carefully; get an expert friend to help you, if possible.

The frame is more important than the rest. Check for evidence of accidents—a collision produces distortion or partial fracture on the top and down tubes just behind the head. Check also for frame alignment. Squat behind the back wheel and see if it lines up with the front wheel.

Look out for rust-coated enamel; notice particularly whether any rust is peeping through the lugs—metal joints that hold the tubes together.

Now check tyres and wheels. Spin the wheels and see if they run true, or whether they rub on the brake blocks. Look especially at the walls of the tyres. Are there any cuts?

Now take the cycle out for a spin. Does it steer straight? Is there play in the bottom bracket? Can you hear the grinding of broken bearings? Finally—if in doubt, do not buy the machine, however attractive it looks!

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IN THE CELLARS OF THE SCIENCE MUSEUM



Part of the tableau which tells the history of British agriculture

FEW visitors to South Kensington's world-famous Science Museum realise that the models which illustrate scientific developments so impressively are made in the Museum's cellars.

This scientific model-making all began before the First World War as the sparetime hobby of a small group of men in the Royal Engineers. They amused themselves by making models from odd pieces of wood, and then had the idea of sending their handicrafts to the Science Museum. The authorities liked the models so well that the soldiers were eventually taken on the Museum's staff.

The cellar workshops have since produced hundreds of fine

models which have helped to establish the Science Museum as one of the best in the world. In the Aeronautical Section alone 300 models among the 1000 exhibits were made by the Museum's craftsmen. From these models a visitor can learn in a few minutes the story of the growth of world aviation during the past 60 years.

Last year 1,250,000 people saw the models, and that number may be doubled during this Festival of Britain year.

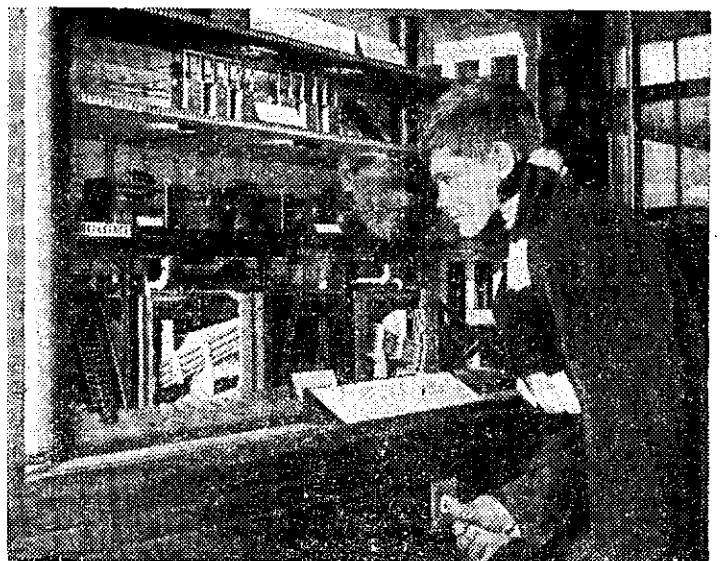
The foreman of the workshops is Mr Fred Goodyear, who in 1937 made a scale model of the 1913 De-Richards Annular Monoplane, which resembles a "flying saucer."



Mr Goodyear with his model of a 1913 "flying saucer"



Working on a model of the 1872 De Lome airship



A working model of the first power house built in New York

LUXURY COMES TO THE KRAALS

PROSPERITY to a degree almost unbelievable has come to the native kraals in Bechuanaland, Basutoland, and Northern Transvaal as a result of the soaring wool prices.

Recently a native in his donkey-cart stopped at a store in Bechuanaland, and when he and his wife could not find what they wanted in refrigerators or wireless sets they decided on a 32-piece dinner set at a cost of £14.

Cheques for amounts up to £500 are being paid out to some native sheep farmers in Basutoland. They have never had so much money in their lives and are buying all sorts of hitherto undreamed-of articles for their huts.

At one native village near Masera a white farmer was surprised to find a tumbledown grass-thatched hut furnished with a Chesterfield suite, an Axminster carpet on the floor, and cut-glass ornaments on a newly-bought sideboard.

But all the money is not being spent on such luxuries. Many native farmers are using their wealth to build dams, improve breeding stock, and build better houses.

Brindley's tree

AN ash tree which has been a familiar landmark in Derbyshire for generations was blown down in a recent gale. It was known as Brindley's Tree, and marked the site of the cottage at Wormhill, near Buxton, in which the famous canal engineer, James Brindley, was born in 1716.

When the cottage fell into disrepair a seedling ash forced its way through the flagstones of the floor, growing stronger as the walls grew weaker and crumbled around it. Gradually the sapling became a fine tree, reminding passers-by of the vanished cottage and the country lad whose name became renowned throughout England as the engineer responsible for about 360 miles of our canals.

Steps to Sporting Fame



26-year-old Scottish international, Billy Steel was born in Denny, Stirlingshire. As a boy he was thought too small ever to have a chance.



But "Wee Wullie" was a natural footballer, and his first pair of real football boots was given to him "to save kicking out the toes of his street shoes." As a boy he played against England, Ireland, and Wales.



At 15 he had a brief spell with Leicester City. At 16 he joined St Mirren, but lost his form and was a long time recovering it. At 17 he was transferred to Greenock Morton. On war service he played in the BAOR team.

Billy Steel



He left Morton for Derby County in 1947, and joined Dundee this season. He has played regularly for Scotland for the past four seasons, and in May 1947 he was inside left for Britain v the Rest of Europe.

BOB HOPE KEEPS A PROMISE

BOB HOPE, the British-born film and radio comedian, has offered the whole of his salary for his forthcoming two weeks' appearance in London towards the rebuilding of a youth centre.

The money may amount to £15,000, and the lucky centre which will be helped by this princely donation is Clubland in Camberwell.

This centre, founded in 1922, cost £100,000 to build, and it was half-destroyed by bombs during the war. Its founder, the Revd James Butterworth, met Bob Hope last year when he was lecturing about Clubland in America. At Hollywood, Mr Butterworth was looking at a film-set from a little distance when, to his surprise, Bob Hope appeared and invited him to come and have a look round.

Mr Butterworth spoke about his blitzed youth centre, and the famous comedian was interested. He promised to give a benefit performance for it.

"You'll forget about it, Mr Hope," sighed the clergyman, who had had experience of pie-crust promises made in a moment of enthusiasm.

"In my job I can teach elephants to remember," retorted Bob.

He has remembered, and generations of Camberwell boys and girls will remember him, too, for his magnificent generosity.

A dream of the old slaves comes true

ON April 15 the Archbishop of Canterbury will inaugurate the new Anglican Church province of West Africa in Sierra Leone. It will be the beginning of another chapter in the romantic story of a British colony which used to be known as "the white man's grave," but has been a land of promise to countless black men.

The first British links with Sierra Leone were forged one morning in the autumn of 1785, when a young London clerk named Granville Sharp saw Jonathan Strong, a poor African Negro slave, limping along Mincing Lane in the City. He took him into his brother's surgery, and afterwards befriended him.

Freedom at last

That chance meeting led to Jonathan Strong not only getting back his physical health, but eventually his freedom as well; more important, it led to the great legal decision of 1772 in which Lord Mansfield declared that any slave getting foot in England was automatically a free man.

There were then 15,000 of these slaves in Britain, and Granville Sharp and his friends decided to find a home for them in Africa.

And so it came about that on February 22, 1787, three ships sailed from Portsmouth with 350 Negroes on board, and three months later landed their passengers on the swampy shore of Sierra Leone.

In face of fever and attack by sea and by land, the little settlement struggled for life. It was placed in charge of the Sierra Leone Company, of which one of the most famous governors was Zachary Macaulay, and the chief town was called Freetown.

New land of hope

Freed slaves in other countries heard of this new land of hope, and in 1791 over a thousand arrived from the bleak shores of Nova Scotia, where they had fled from the southern states of America.

After 1807, when Britain declared the slave trade illegal, the British Navy often rescued cargoes of slaves in the South Atlantic and brought them to Sierra Leone, where they could live their lives as free people. One day a cargo of 300 children came into Freetown, and were adopted by ladies of the colony; and one little Negro girl was taken to a home where the door was opened by her own mother, from whom she had been kidnapped months before. It was not the only case of a touching reunion on a more hospitable shore.

Sierra Leone's story is crowned by the magnificent service which the Church Missionary Society and the Methodist Missionary Society have rendered to the country. Missionaries arrived there in the early years of the nineteenth century, and by 1853 there was a bishop in Sierra Leone. A few years later the Sierra Leoneans began to support their own church without help from Britain.

Next Sunday, when the Archbishop of Canterbury installs a new Archbishop for the whole of West Africa, he will preach in the cathedral — St George's — which looks out over the lonely waterfront of Freetown, where so many thousands of slaves have found freedom.

African Church

With the Archbishop will be four African bishops, ten African archdeacons, and African clergy from all parts of West Africa. They will elect their own Archbishop and so make the Church in West Africa really an African one. Thus will an old dream of the ex-slaves at last find fulfilment.

Coventry remembers

MR SKELTON, a 27-year-old Coventry artist, is carving in stone a symbolic design of the city's once-flourishing textile industry. He is working on one of the square pillars of Broadgate House.

The design includes a primitive loom as its basis, and is arched by a cap, symbolising the cap-making industry. Above that is a teasel, used by the old craftsmen to bring up the nap on material. The whole is crowned by scissors or tailor's cutters. Through the design runs a scroll of ribbon—a reminder that the city of cars was once the city of ribbons.

NICHOLAS NICKLEBY—New picture-version of Dickens's great novel (6)



The kind-hearted Cheeryble brothers took Nicholas into their business as a clerk, and decided to let a cottage of theirs to him and his mother and sister at a very low rent. They plotted together, in their generous way, to make secret loans to Mrs Nickleby to buy furniture, agreeing between them to change the loans to gifts later. Within a week the Nicklebys were happily settled in the cottage at Bow.



One morning Nicholas entered the Cheerybles' office and was astonished to see a beautiful young lady of whom he had previously caught a glimpse at a registry office. She was on her knees in an imploring attitude and the Cheerybles were begging her to rise. Nicholas fell in love with her, but although he made inquiries, he could not find out who she was or why she came to the office.



Then the Cheerybles sent Nicholas on a mission to this girl, who was Madeline Bray. Her father was an invalid who had wasted his fortune and was deeply in debt. She was devoted to him in spite of his selfishness, and tried hard to support him and herself. The Cheerybles intended to help her by buying her drawings at high prices. Nicholas was to take her money to the poor lodgings where she lived.

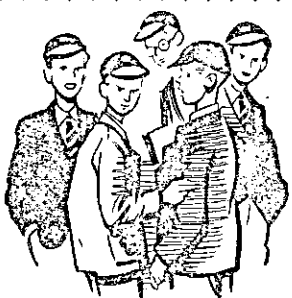


Meanwhile, Newman Noggs, who knew nothing of Madeline, overheard Ralph Nickleby and another money-lender, Arthur Grime, scheming. Grime said Madeline was entitled to some property when she married, though she did not know it. He wanted to get hold of this property by marrying her, and hoped to persuade her by promising to cancel her father's debt to him, and also paying some of Bray's debt to Ralph.

Will Nicholas hear of this scheme to marry Madeline to an old miser? See next week's instalment



THE GALLANT THIRD OF MILBOURNE Masterpiece (1)



BUT isn't *tertius* the Latin for third?" squeaked young Sprottle.

Balmforth told him it was, if the Latin Primer was right.

"And isn't *forma* the Latin for Form?" he continued.

"I suppose it is," Balmforth said gingerly.

"There you are, then!" said Sprottle. "*Tertius Forma*. And I bet there isn't another school in the land whose Third Form runs a magazine of its own."

"But if they do," drawled Gudgeon, that ripest of scholars, "I don't expect they'll forget that *Forma* is feminine."

"All right, then, *Tertia Forma*," Sprottle conceded.

But who was to be the mag's Editor? That was the crux. Well, considering that he had captained the *Good Intent*, Balmforth didn't see that they needed to look any further. But the *Good Intent* had gone on the rocks, they reminded him, and they didn't intend their mag to be shipwrecked as well.

Well, wouldn't their Grim Bird (Mr Grimmett, the form-master) feel awfully bucked to be editor?

"I don't know," said Balmforth. "He wasn't too bucked, you remember, when we elected him President of the Ants Club."

"Then what I want to know is who shall it be?"

"I wouldn't mind taking it on," said Pettifer modestly. "I've a cousin who writes for the magazines. I could ask him to give me a wrinkle or two."

THEY turned this over. Would Pettifer do? Well, he might. Because Pettifer knew everything, as they agreed. And editors always knew everything. Wasn't that so?

"And not only that," said Pettifer, while they assessed him. "I'll get my cousin to send me some copy as well."

"Copy! Oh, you mean that they prig it?" piped Sprottle.

"They might," observed Pettifer cautiously. "But 'copy' is their name for the stuff that they write."

"And you do think your cousin would send us some?"

"If I'm the Editor. I mean, I'm not pledging him, Balmforth. But I can try him."

"Good enough!" declared Balmforth. "Pettifer's Editor. And what about the printing?"

"You mean to have it properly printed and published?"

"Of course! The Third Form doesn't do things by halves!"

And here Gudgeon shone for the second time. "You listen!" he bade. "You know Filmer and Filmer, who print the School's mag in the town?"

"Well, what about them?" said Balmforth.

"They're awfully good sorts, who've done lots of work for my father. So I'll wangle an *execut* and pop down and see them."

"You'll ask them to print the Third's mag?"

"Yes, of course, Balmforth."

"But you must tell them to keep it dark while they're doing it, Gudgeon."

"Oh, yes, you can trust them for that. Printers don't blab, you know, Balmforth."

"I don't know," snapped Balmforth. "I've never known any printers—"

"Well, you needn't lose your temper about it," said Gudgeon. "I haven't been in the Third as long as you have—"

"It's Maxton who holds the record," Whitstable interrupted.

Yes, and that reminded them.

Why shouldn't old Maxton be Editor instead of Pettifer? A man of Maxton's standing would carry more weight. And not only that. The Grim Bird would vote for him, wouldn't he?

"But I thought we were keeping the Grim Bird quite in the dark."

"And so did I," Balmforth insisted.

"So how can he vote for old Maxton?" Jellicombe added. "If

by
GUNBY HADATH

we asked the Grim Bird to vote for old Maxton, we're sunk."

"Besides the Grim Bird might be jealous," cried Wheat. "He doesn't know that already we've voted against him being Editor."

Yes, that was true, they assented. They had better not risk asking Maxton, although Pettifer said he was willing enough to stand down. He was ready to take up some other post on the mag, if after all they'd rather have Maxton. Would they like to sound him about it?

And here came old Maxton himself, sauntering up with his hands in his pockets. They pounced on him instantly. Would he like, they inquired, to edit the *Form's* Magazine? Considering he'd been in the Third since the days of the Flood they considered that he ought to be their first Editor.

That was the first time, he said, that he'd heard of it.

"It's a jolly distinguished post, Maxton."

"Not for me!" he replied. "And

I don't know why you want a rotten mag, anyway."

It wouldn't be rotten, they told him. It was going to be a grand mag. Theirs would be the first school in the country whose Third Form had ever run a mag of its own.

"And the last, I expect," said old Maxton, shining for once.

"Then all the more reason that you should contribute, old chap."

"When the cows come home," agreed Maxton. And he wandered away again.

So that was that. Pettifer must stay as Editor. And he it was who uttered the next word of warning.

"I suppose we're agreed about wanting the mag out this term?"

"Yes, of course!" they assured him.

"Then we've no time to lose. Before Gudgeon pops off to the printers we have to make certain that the mag will be ready. So I tell you what we must do. We must spend this week-end in writing out stuff for it, Balmforth. So that Gudgeon can take it to the printers on Monday."

"Yes, I see that," said Balmforth.

"And what about paying for it?" was Pettifer's next question.

"Oh, naturally we'll have to pay them," said Gudgeon. "But I'll get them to wait for the money till after the hols."

"You think you can?"

"Yes, they're awfully decent, I told you. And during the hols we'll collect from our people at home."

ON this Balmforth turned back to Pettifer. What did he think?

"But how shall we know how much the bill is?" interrupted Jellicombe. "I mean how can we each know our share to get from our people?"

"Oh, I've thought of that also," smiled Gudgeon. "I didn't forget that. When printers send you a bill they call it an invoice. Before we break up I'll get one from Filmer and Filmer, and then I can tell you exactly how much each share is!"

"You don't forget much!" exclaimed Balmforth.

"No," Gudgeon accepted with modesty. "So am I to buzz off to Filmer and Filmer on Monday?"

"You are," they commanded.

"Would you like to be the sub-editor?" Balmforth asked next.

"No, thank you," said Gudgeon discreetly.

"All right. Then what about you, Whitstable? Will you take it on?"

"I don't know what you want a sub-editor for, Balmforth."

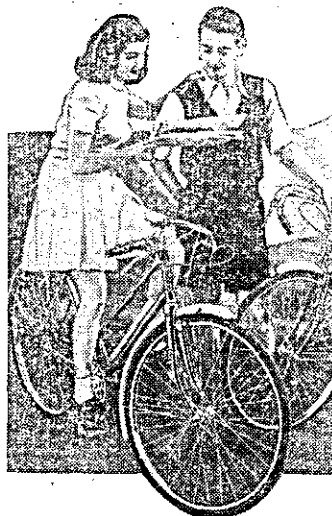
"No more do I," answered Balmforth. "But every decent mag has to have a sub-editor. So the Third Form must do itself proud."

"You mean proudly," said Whitstable. "We must have good English in our mag."

Continued on page 10

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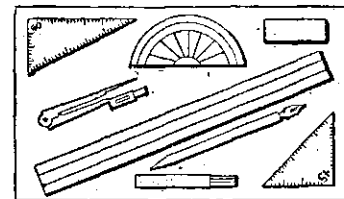


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- 5 Why does a chemist's shop have coloured globes?
- 6 Who was the "noblest Roman of them all"?
- 7 Exigent means — Stolen, urgent, or broken?
- 8 Can a Bombay Duck fly?

Answers on page 11

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ABORIGINES DRESS FOR SCHOOL

From the vast open spaces of the 523,000 square miles of Northern Territory, in Australia, mostly peopled by Aborigines, there has come an insistent call for education—a call to which the Commonwealth Government has readily responded. It is a noteworthy stage in social advancement, and one that is taking place with little fuss and certainly without much publicity.

Mission schools there have been in Northern Territory for a long time, but less than a year ago the Government decided to break new ground by setting up four schools for full-blooded Aboriginal children. These have already opened, and three others are to be established shortly.

The most remote of the four schools is at Yuendumu, a native reserve and station 200 miles north of Alice Springs. The natives there have had much less European contact than at the other places where schools have been started. Yet both the wild Aborigines and their children are extremely keen on schooling, and since the opening the enrolment has increased from 40 to more than 100.

The children continue to live with their people according to native custom, but each day when they come to school they take a shower-bath and put on a suitable and simple school uniform. At the end of the day's lessons they put away the uniform and go home.

The teachers at present are concentrating on the three Rs; but other studies such as history, geography, and "social subjects" will follow in easy stages for the children.

Carpentry, leatherwork, and other simple crafts will also be taught, and games are not neglected; but teachers have found it takes a good deal of thought to teach ball games to children who, like many at Yuendumu, have never seen a ball in their lives.

The teachers have been specially selected, and the project promises to be the greatest single contribution to the advancement of the Aborigines in the remote areas of Australia. In this way are these hitherto neglected people being shown the way to become worthy citizens of their fine country.

The Gallant Third of Milbourne

Continued from page 9

Then Balmforth sat down in front of a sheet of foolscap, and began to write slowly and thoughtfully. And when he had finished he passed it along to the others. "There you are," he announced. "That's our title."

THE TERTIAN

THE JOURNAL OF THE THIRD FORM OF

MILBOURNE SCHOOL

Labor Omnia Vincit

The Labor Omnia Vincit was a masterly stroke, they all thought. It was, of course, the family motto of Wheat Minor (or so he boasted), and when he protested they said it was jolly decent of him to lend it.

Then again all the learned societies called their mags "journals." Which was one up to the Third Form, as Balmforth explained.

Next week The Tertian is published—and receives the Grim Bird's attention!

BEDTIME CORNER

Monty Minnow's adventure

THERE were shoals of minnows living among the water weeds fringing the river bank. They were rather timid creatures, always getting out of the way of the big fish, and letting them take the best bits of their water weed and the scraps of bread thrown in by humans. That is, until Monty Minnow began talking.

"It's not fair!" he cried. And the younger minnows waved their fins in agreement. But the older ones just blew slow bubbles and said depressingly: "It's always been like that!"

But though Monty talked a lot he never really did anything to change matters. But when the flood waters of the river spread over the low-lying meadows Monty and his friends began adventuring out there. For there the big fish never swam.

"Take care!" cried the older minnows as one day they met them returning from the centre of the meadow, where the land was even lower lying, and the water

therefore deeper. "If you're out there when the floods go down suddenly, as they do, you'll find dry land reappearing between you and the river, and you'll be cut off!"

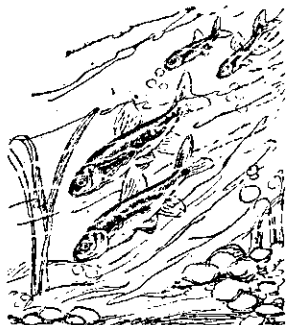
But Monty and his friends thought this was only more depressing talk, and took no notice. Until the floods did suddenly go down, and they were cut off.

"Let's swim away from the river instead, then," said Monty cheerfully. So inland farther than ever they went, until the water ended in a kind of ditch.

"This must lead somewhere," cried Monty encouragingly. So on they went, and presently reached the place where the ditch joined a little brook. Up and down here they swam, getting more and more excited. For here was food in plenty. And NO big fish.

"We'll settle here!" cried Monty. And that's how the first minnows got into the brook.

JANE THORNICROFT



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The Children's Newspaper, April 14, 1951

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2nd PRIZE £5 : 5 : 0

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3rd PRIZE £3 : 3 : 0

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John Foreman, The Cottage, Castle Lane, Orford, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
Anthony Cotter, 6 Church Path, Great Amwell, near Ware, Herts.

Gerald D. L. Pickering, 29 Hillingdon Road, Gravesend, Kent.

Anthony McNiff, 224 Frederick Street, Oldham, Lancs.

Peter L'Oste Miller, 46 Bowfell Road, Mirehouse, Whitehaven.

J. Pullen, 6 Studley Drive, Ilford, Essex.

Neville Knee, 43 High Street, Hanham, near Bristol.

A. MacDonald Smith, "Alipore," Queensway, Gerrards Cross, Bucks.

Brian Rogers, 119 Ilbert Street, London, W.10.

J. C. W. Cope, 5 The College, Keele, Staffs.

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Entries for the next Brickplayer Competition must be submitted between January 1st and February 28th, 1952.

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Note to the Customs men

WHEN the Gutenberg Bible recently sold in this country was taken to America, an extract from an interesting old letter was read to the American Customs officials by Mr John Carter, in whose care the precious volume was placed. It was part of a letter written in 1870 by Henry Stevens, the London bookseller, to George Bundley, buyer of the second Gutenberg Bible to cross the Atlantic.

It read: "Pray, sir, ponder for a moment, to appreciate the rarity and importance of this precious consignment from the old world to the new. Not only is it the first Bible, but it is the first book ever printed. It was read in Europe half a century before America was discovered."

"Please suggest to your deputy that he uncover his head while in the presence of the great Book. Let no Custom House official or other man, in or out of authority, see it without first reverently raising his hat. It is not possible for many men ever to touch or ever to look upon a page of a Gutenberg Bible."

The Gutenberg Bibles, the first to be set from movable type, were printed between 1452 and 1455 by Johannes Gutenberg in Mainz, Germany. It is estimated that he produced from 100 to 300, and there are still about 50 in existence.

PARTY PIECE

FILM stars recently took part in an unheated thriller at Palm Springs, California. They were attending a fancy-dress party being held in a circus tent when suddenly a lioness appeared.

But although none of the stars had appeared in "Tarzan" films, they were equal to the occasion, and drove the party-minded lioness into a corner until her trainer arrived.

STAMP NEWS

AUSTRALIA is to issue a set of four stamps to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Federal Government. The stamps will show portraits of Sir Edmund Barton and Sir Henry Parkes (who had such great interest in ideas of federal government), the Parliament Buildings in Canberra, and the opening of the first Federal Parliament in Melbourne.

THE 1951 stamp for the French "Day of the Stamp" shows a scene in a railway sorting van. It bears a surcharge for postal workers' welfare.

A HUNDRED years have passed since Canada issued her first postage stamp, and the centenary will be commemorated next September.

YOUNG QUIZ—Answers

1. Less dense or lighter gases rise till they meet a layer of their own or lesser density.
2. An unidentified French State prisoner in the Bastille.
3. Blood oranges were obtained by grafting the ordinary orange on to the stem of a pomegranate.
4. A unit of light measure.
5. They are a relic of the days when apothecaries kept their mixtures in such jars.
6. Brutus.
7. Urgent.
8. No. It is a fish.

SPORTS SHORTS

ONE of the proudest boys in Wales is 15-year-old Philip Cilia, of Cardiff. In the recent Schools Amateur Boxing Championships, Field-Marshal Viscount Montgomery awarded him a wrist-watch for the most gallant boxer in the show. Philip, who won the final of the intermediate 8 stone 4 lbs class, has been boxing since he was 11.

Boys from the Public Schools will be on their toes next week at the White City when the London Athletic Club Schools Challenge Cup meeting is held. Runners, jumpers, and hurdlers from all the Public Schools will be competing, this year's entries being so numerous that qualifying standards have been instituted.

MRS DOROTHY TYLER, Britain's finest woman high jumper, has been training all the winter. In the hope that she can set up a new world's record she has changed her style from the scissors to the more difficult straddle, the style used by the leading men jumpers. She has been trained by Arthur Gold, the well-known A A A coach, who trained Peter Wells for the English native record. Mrs Tyler, mother of two children, was second in the 1938 and 1948 Olympics, and Empire Games champion in 1938 and 1950.

MISS ANGELA MORTIMER, 20-year-old Devon girl, has a bright lawn tennis future. She has based her style on that of Miss Joan Curry, and during the winter won several tournaments in the South of France. Her dogged determination made a great impression.

THE people of Woking, Surrey, home-town of the cricketing Bedser twins, have started a fund to pay tribute to Alec when he returns from Australia—an honour this big-hearted fast bowler well deserves. Freddy Brown, captain of England and Northants, is also to be officially honoured by the people of his home-town—Daventry.

JOHNNY LEACH, World table tennis champion, will shortly join Michel Haguenaer, of France, on a trip to Australia, where they will play exhibition matches. The tour is expected to stimulate interest in table tennis Down Under.

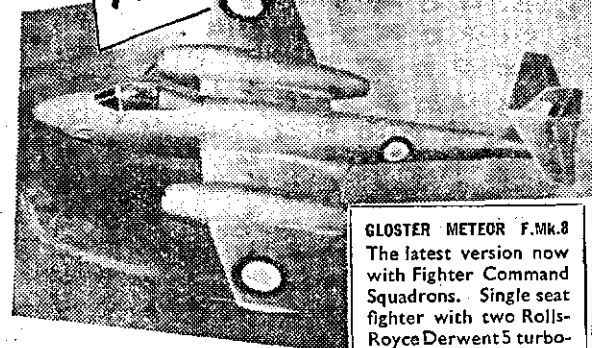
Two-way Channel swim attempt

VETERAN swimmer Tom Blower is positive that the Channel can be swum both ways at one go, and he is now in training for an attempt in August. He tried to do this three years ago and crossed from England to France in record time, but was prevented by an adverse tide from swimming back.

On that occasion he lost his provision boat in the darkness and had to complete his swim on a diet consisting chiefly of his trainer's bread-and-jam sandwiches.

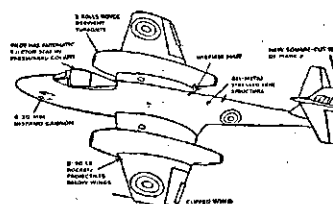
One of the hardest of Channel swimmers, Tom Blower swam in 1937 from Cap Griz Nez to Dover. Ten years later he became the only man to swim the icy North Channel from Ireland to Scotland, a distance of 23 miles.

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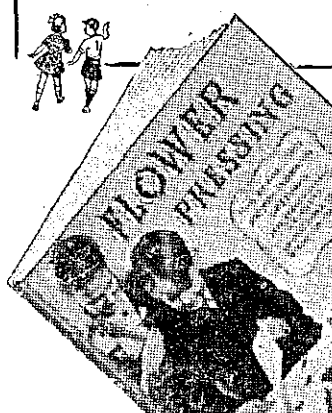
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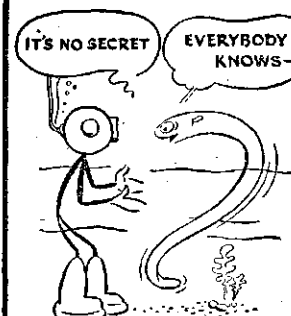


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THE BRAN TUB

Crocodile bird

THE boaster was showing some of his treasures to a friend.

"Look at this lovely crocodile bag," he said. "I shot the crocodile myself."

"Really," said the friend. "What's this mark?" And he pointed to a damaged part.

"Oh, that's where the crocodile fell out of the tree."

A triangle trick

Here is a little match trick for you to try.

WITH nine matches make five triangles, then take away two matches to leave only two triangles. *Answer next week*

Farmer Gray explains

Grass snakes and their young. By the rushes that fringed the pond, Don saw a large snake.

"It was a greyish colour and had two orange patches on its neck," Don told Farmer Gray.

"A grass snake," commented the farmer. "The orange marks you mention form a collar which gives the alternative name—ringed snake. During March or April, snakes reappear from hibernation. Grass snakes lay a number of creamy, parchment-like eggs, which swell directly after laying to about 1½ inches in length. These eggs take about six or eight weeks to hatch. The young snakes are about seven inches long at birth."

Springtime

A JEWELLER suffered a shock. When asked to supply from his stock, Among other things, Twenty-three fairy rings, And a seven-day, dandelion clock.

Stop here

CUSTOMER: I want some strong hinges for the end wall of my garage.

Assistant: That's a peculiar place to put hinges.

Customer: I know; but my wife can't always stop the car.

Not a sweet tooth

WHAT has a mouth but never eats?

And does not care for cakes nor sweets.

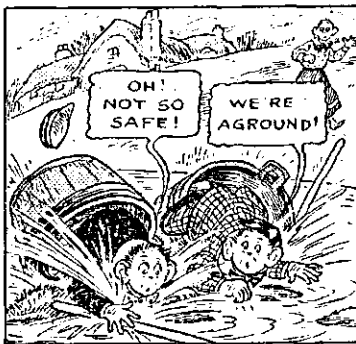
This question's puzzling, I confess;

It is a river. Did you guess?

Jacko and Chimp run aground



Two of Mother Jacko's old wash-tubs seemed to make excellent "punts."



"I've never known water to be so wet," groaned Chimp mournfully.



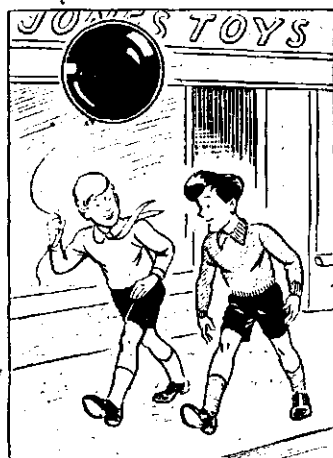
"Water, water, everywhere," quoth Jacko, returning for a further soaking.

Pedalling pairs

ON Monday Humphrey went cycling with Richard; on Tuesday he went with Edward. On Wednesday Richard and Edward went cycling together. Humphrey's two trips added up to 38 miles, Richard's to 40, and Edward's to 36.

How far did Humphrey ride with Richard?

Roddy



"Don't let it go, or someone may think it's a flying saucer."

Riddle-my-name

FIRST in sieve but not in sift;
Next in sail but not in drift;
Third in mallet, not in hammer;
Fourth in teacher and in crammer;
Fifth in birch but not in beech;
Sixth in limpet, not in leech;
Last in spinner and in weaver.
This girl makes an A1 lever!

Answer next week

April halves

THE six people whose names are hidden below have anniversaries in April. Can you match up the heads and tails? You should find a historian and a poet (both English), a Scottish mathematician, a German composer, and a revolutionary leader and a dramatist (both French).

BRA BON
DAN PER
RAC IER
NAP TON
GIB HMS
COW INE

Answer next week

Missed something?

THE office boy strolled into the office over half an hour late.

"You should have been here at nine o'clock," said the boss.

"Why, what happened?"

Home for tea

MR X. R. SIZE always walks through the park on his way home. The park is a rectangle, and if Mr Size has time he goes in at one corner, walks round three sides, and out at another corner. When he is a bit late, however, he enters at the usual corner and goes along only one side of the park. If his long walk is half a mile and his short walk 400 yards, how wide is the park?

Answer next week

Such is fame

THE actor was talking to an admirer.

"It took me almost twelve years to realise that I had not the slightest talent for acting," he said.

"Oh, come!" said the admirer. "Why did you not then give up the theatre?"

"I couldn't. By that time I was famous."

Absent-bodied

IT happened at the home of the absent-minded professor.

"What a pity," said his wife. "Your best hat was run over by a motor-car."

"Was I wearing it?" queried the professor.

Other worlds

IN the evening Venus is in the south-west, Uranus in the south, and Saturn low in the south-east.

In the morning Jupiter is low in the south-east.

The picture shows the Moon at 8 o'clock on

Thursday evening, April 12.



Europe

THE name Europe is probably derived from Greek words which mean "the broad face of the Earth." Some scholars, however, believe it comes from a Hebrew word meaning "land of the setting sun."

The ancient people of the east knew very little about Europe, but, observing the sun set in the west, may have called it the land where the sun sets.

Last week's answers

Pocket money
He started with 51d

Enigma

March (ch-ar-m)

What is the word?

Weather (we, at, her)

BLADE	FALC
UROS	IERA
LOAS	SLEEPS
BIANAL	NET
SAY	BAR
HIT	RESTIN
ASIDES	LA
LORDER	I
TINY	TELL

Quack, quack

SAMMY SIMPLE says a quack doctor looks after ducks.

Sharps
the word!



Sharps

The word for Toffee



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